

# PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency



Lebanon VA Medical Center  
Lebanon, PA



## Core longitudinal rotations

CHF Telephone Discharge Clinic  
Clinical Pharmacy Administration  
Diabetes Education and Management Clinic  
E-consult/Non-formulary evaluation  
ESA clinic  
Home based Primary Care  
Orientation Period  
Patient Aligned Care Team  
Pharmacotherapy/DM VA Outpatient Clinics  
Pharmacotherapy Clinic  
Pharmacotherapy Update  
Population Health: DOAC database  
Residency Project QI/QA

## Elective rotation options

- Behavioral Health Clinic
- Pharmacoeconomics/Formulary Management
- Anticoagulation Clinic
- Other elective experiences may be offered within the VA Specialty Clinics.



## Purpose

**ASHP standard PGY2 Program Purpose:** PGY2 pharmacy residency programs build on Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) education and PGY1 pharmacy residency programs to contribute to the development of clinical pharmacists in specialized areas of practice. PGY2 residencies provide residents with opportunities to function independently as practitioners by conceptualizing and integrating accumulated experience and knowledge and incorporating both into the provision of patient care that improves medication therapy. Residents who successfully complete an accredited PGY2 pharmacy residency should possess competencies that qualify them for clinical pharmacist and/or faculty positions and position them to be eligible for attainment of board certification in the specialized practice area (when board certification for the practice area exists).

The PGY2 residency in Ambulatory Care pharmacy practice at the Lebanon VA Medical Center is focused on developing practitioners who will exhibit excellence in pharmaceutical care in Ambulatory Care practice settings. An Ambulatory Care Clinical Specialist should possess the clinical skills needed to practice in a wide range of patient care settings and a solid knowledge base in Ambulatory Care pharmacotherapy. This PGY2 residency will provide the environment necessary to achieve the knowledge and skills needed to care for patients in the Ambulatory Care area and obtain positions in a wide-range of job settings such as VA, private sector or as a Clinical Specialist in an integrated healthcare delivery system. The PGY2 residency will help prepare graduates of the program to achieve the clinical knowledge base needed to attain board certification in ambulatory care.

## Program goals

### **Clinical development**

- Provide patient-specific medication management services within an approved Scope of Practice which results in positive patient outcomes
- Develop strong patient care skills in chronic Ambulatory Care disease states
- Provide patient specific educational services on a one-to-one basis as well as in group meetings
- Become familiar with pharmacy benefit management principles including the non-formulary process
- Become established as an integral part of the health care team

### **Educational development**

- Effectively evaluate and apply data from clinical trials into your pharmacy practice skills
- Develop skill set to effectively educate health care professionals in small discussions groups as well as during didactic type lectures
- Develop skills to provide competency based training to pharmacy employees including pharmacists and pharmacy technicians
- Develop skills needed to precept both Lebanon VA PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residents and Pharm.D. student rotations.

### **Personal development**

- Develop the skills necessary to effectively self evaluate one's work
- Develop written and verbal communication skills to successfully practice in Ambulatory Care clinics
- Demonstrate effective time- management skills needed to successfully practice as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist

## Core rotation preceptors:

**Dina Hunsinger-Norris, Pharm.D., BCACP, BCPS, AQ-Cardiology**  
PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency Director  
Ambulatory Care Clinical Coordinator  
Specialty residency in Primary Care with a focus on education,  
Chicago College of Pharmacy, Midwestern University, 2001  
[dina.norris@va.gov](mailto:dina.norris@va.gov)

**Lisa McCommons, Pharm.D., BCPS, CDCES**  
Primary Care Clinical Specialist  
Specialty residency in Primary Care, Madison VAMC, 2000  
[lisa.mccommons@va.gov](mailto:lisa.mccommons@va.gov)

**Heather Ulrich, Pharm.D., BCPS, CDCES**  
Endocrinology Clinical Specialist  
PGY1, Temple University Hospital, 1999  
PGY2 Primary Care residency, Providence Health System, 2000  
[heather.ulrich@va.gov](mailto:heather.ulrich@va.gov)

**Christy Dayhoff, RPh**  
Hematology/Oncology Clinical Specialist  
[christy.dayhoff@va.gov](mailto:christy.dayhoff@va.gov)

**Monica Bowen, Pharm.D., BCPS, CDCES**  
Primary Care Clinical Specialist  
PGY1, Lebanon VAMC, 2010  
PGY2, Ambulatory Care, Lebanon VAMC, 2011  
[monica.bowen@va.gov](mailto:monica.bowen@va.gov)

**Chelsea Wittich, Pharm.D., BCACP, CDCES**  
Clinical Specialist – Primary Care/Endocrinology  
Pharmacy Practice Residency, Geisinger Medical Center, 2014  
Ambulatory Care Residency, Lebanon VA Medical Center, 2015  
[chelsea.wittich@va.gov](mailto:chelsea.wittich@va.gov)

**Ambili Prasad, PharmD, BCPS**  
PACT Clinical Pharmacy Specialist  
PGY1, Lebanon VAMC, 2015  
[ambili.prasad@va.gov](mailto:ambili.prasad@va.gov)

**Sarah Allwein, Pharm.D.**  
Primary Care Clinical Specialist  
PGY1, Lebanon VAMC, 2018  
[sarah.allwein@va.gov](mailto:sarah.allwein@va.gov)

**Sarah Hunt, Pharm.D., BCACP**  
Primary Care Clinical Specialist  
PGY1, Lebanon VAMC, 2020  
PGY2, Ambulatory Care, Lebanon VAMC, 2021  
[sarah.hunt@va.gov](mailto:sarah.hunt@va.gov)

**Bryan Murray, Pharm.D.**  
Home Based Primary Care Clinical Specialist  
[bryan.murray@va.gov](mailto:bryan.murray@va.gov)

**Lorena Diguiseppe, Pharm.D.**  
Home Based Primary Care Clinical Specialist  
PGY1, Lebanon VAMC, 2020  
[lorena.diguiseppe@va.gov](mailto:lorena.diguiseppe@va.gov)

**Danielle Lapes, Pharm.D., BCPP**  
Anticoagulation Clinical Specialist  
PGY1, Stratton VAMC, 2013  
PGY2, Psychiatric Pharmacy, VA Western NY Health Care System, 2014  
[danielle.lapes@va.gov](mailto:danielle.lapes@va.gov)

**Chelsea Pavone, Pharm.D., BCACP**  
Anticoagulation Clinical Specialist  
PGY1, Lebanon VAMC, 2017  
[chelsea.pavone@va.gov](mailto:chelsea.pavone@va.gov)

## Benefits

- Stipend: Refer to the ASHP Directory for most recent stipend
- 13 paid annual leave/13 paid sick days/10 paid federal holidays
- Funds may be available to attend national and regional pharmacy conferences
- Subsidized health insurance
- Vision/dental benefit offered
- Free parking/lab coats
- YMCA onsite with free membership fee

## About the Lebanon VA Medical Center

The medical center is a Joint Commission accredited medical complex, which consists of a main campus in Lebanon, plus Community Based Out-patient Clinics in Camp Hill, York, Reading, Lancaster, Frackville, and Pottsville, serving approximately 45,000 patients in 9 counties of south central Pennsylvania. A large part of the main campus centers around primary care; there are eight primary care teams, various outpatient specialty clinics including cardiology, oncology, nephrology, physical/occupational therapy clinics, dental clinic, as well as behavioral health clinics to name a few. The main hospital has a total of 280 beds in the areas of intensive care, acute care, psychiatry, surgery, transitional care, substance abuse rehabilitation, nursing home and hospice.

## About Lebanon, PA

Lebanon is located in the beautiful farmlands of South Central Pennsylvania, nestled between mountains that run along the northern and southern borders. Lebanon has a small-town atmosphere with a great quality of life and relatively low cost of living.

Lebanon is a short drive from Harrisburg, the state capital of Pennsylvania as well as Lancaster - famous for its Amish farms. Several major interstate highways intersect the county and provide easy access to many large cities such as Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington D.C. and New York City.

Enjoy a short drive to Hershey, PA – the chocolate capital of the world - offering one of the nation's finest theme parks, beautiful hotels, and golf. The Hershey area attracts many nationally and internationally renowned touring acts as well as millions of chocolate loving visitors every year.



## Application Requirements

The Lebanon Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residency Program is open to any individual regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, age, or handicap. All applications materials should be submitted via the PhORCAS system by the application deadline and will be competitively considered for an interview.

The minimum requirements to receive consideration for an interview are as follows:

- Current enrollment in a n ASHP accredited PGY1 pharmacy residency program with anticipated completion prior to start of PGY2 residency or have previously completed an ASHP accredited PGY1 residency
- Must be licensed as a pharmacist in any US state or territory in compliance with our residency's licensure policy
- Possess a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an ACPE-accredited school or college of pharmacy; or a B.S., M.S., or Ph.D. degree and equivalent experience
- Applicants must be able to commit to the residency for a period of no less than one year.
- Applicant must be a US citizen.

**Please note that these are the minimum requirements to receive consideration for an onsite interview. Meeting these criteria does not guarantee acceptance.**

Use the link below to determine eligibility for becoming a Health Professions Trainee at VA Facilities: [Am I Eligible? Checklist for VA HPTs](#)

## Resident Application Process

Letter of intent\*

Curriculum Vitae

Three recommendations in PhORCAS (Letters recommended)

College transcripts

**\*The letter of intent should include** the answers to the following three questions: (1) Why do you want to do this residency? (2) What are your personal and professional strengths? (3) Where do you see yourself in five years?

If any of the above materials are not received by the application deadline of **January 10th**, the applicant will not be considered for an interview. Submitted in PhORCAS.

**For more information regarding this PGY2 send all correspondence to:**

Dina Hunsinger-Norris, Pharm.D., BCACP, BCPS  
Ambulatory Care Clinical Coordinator  
PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency Director  
1700 South Lincoln Avenue, BLD 19, Rm 257  
Lebanon, PA 17042  
1-800-409-8771 ext. 5444  
dina.norris@va.gov

*“I feel VERY PREPARED and confident in my knowledge, I know Lebanon trained me well and I don't think I would be able to do what I'm doing without a PGY2 and experience pre-scribing..”*

Former PGY2 Lebanon VA Ambulatory Care resident



# VA

**U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs**

Veterans Health  
Administration  
Lebanon VA  
Medical Center